

Directions: Read the excerpt below and respond to the questions.



Rudyard Kipling

Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rudyard_Kipling#/media/File:Rudyard_Kipling_\(portrait\).jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rudyard_Kipling#/media/File:Rudyard_Kipling_(portrait).jpg)

Introduction

Rudyard Kipling was a British short-story writer, poet and novelist. Considered one of the most popular writers in Britain during the late 19th and early 20th centuries, Kipling eventually won the Nobel Prize in Literature. Kipling was born in Bombay, India in 1865. During this time India was under British control and many young British families lived in colonies like India. Kipling, like most young British people who lived in the British colonies, was sent to school in Britain before eventually returning to India. In 1898 Kipling began traveling to South Africa for winter vacations almost every year. There, he befriended Cecil Rhodes. In 1899 after spending some time living in the United States with his family, his famous poem, *White Man's Burden* was published in McClure's magazine with the subtitle *The United States and the Philippine Islands*. The poem coincided with the beginning of the Philippine-American War and U.S. Senate ratification of the treaty that placed Puerto Rico, Guam, Cuba, and the Philippines under American control. Thus, the poem became an appeal to the United States to take up the "burden" of empire building and uplifting the ignorant indigenous people, as had Britain and other European nations.

1. Who wrote *White Man's Burden*?
2. When was it written?
3. Where was it written?
4. Is *White Man's Burden* a primary or secondary source?
5. What genre (letter, memoir, journal, edict, etc.) of document is *White Man's Burden*? What does this reveal about the intended impact of this document?
6. What was the author's message or goal with *White Man's Burden*?

***White Man's Burden*, Rudyard Kipling (1899)**

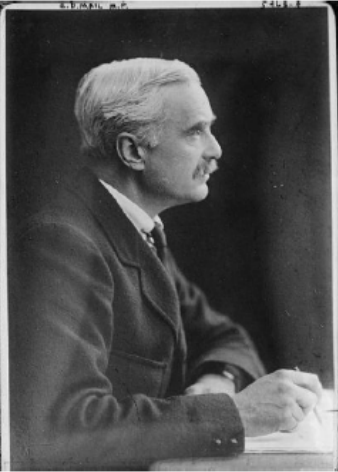
Directions: Read the excerpt of *White Man's Burden* below and respond to the questions. As you read, use the annotation guide below to mark your text.

- 1 Take up the White Man's burden--
- 2 Send forth the best ye breed--
- 3 Go bind your sons to exile
- 4 To serve your captives' need;
- 5 To wait in heavy harness,
- 6 On fluttered folk and wild--
- 7 Your new-caught, sullen peoples,
- 8 Half-devil and half-child.

"White Man's Burden" came to be known as the responsibility that that white colonizers believed they had to educate and civilize the indigenous people in the places they conquered.

1. In this stanza of the poem, the colonized people are referred to as "Half-devil and half-child" (li. 8). What does this reveal about how Kipling thinks of the indigenous people?

2. In this stanza, Kipling says "Take up the White Man's Burden" or send "the best ye breed" or their sons to the colonies. There he wants them to "serve your captives' [indigenous people's] need". What does Kipling believe the "half-devil and half-child" people need from the Europeans?



Edmund Morel

Source:
https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/en/7/7a/1922_Edmond_Dene_Morel.jpg

Introduction

Edmund Morel was a French-born British journalist. He drew attention to imperial abuses and led a campaign against slavery in the Belgian Congo. In 1891, he began to work for a Liverpool shipping firm in Brussels. Morel noticed that the ships leaving Belgium for the Congo carried only guns, chains, and ammunition, but no commercial goods. He also noticed that ships arriving from the colony came back full of valuable products such as rubber and ivory. Morel began to suspect that Africans were being forced into slave labor. In 1900, Morel decided to devote time to the campaign against the slave conditions in the Belgian Congo with a series of articles in the weekly magazine *Speaker*. In 1903, he founded his own magazine called the *West African Mail* to address increased imperialism in West and Central Africa. He published a weekly journal as well as pamphlets and a book. In 1904, the British House of Commons sent a consul to Congo to investigate the conditions there. The 1904 report confirmed Morel's accusations of slavery and mistreatment. Morel founded the Congo Reform Association which got the support of well known writers like Joseph Conrad and Mark Twain. Morel also relied on Christian missionaries whose eyewitness accounts, and photographs of the atrocities helped to spread the word about the atrocities happening in the Congo. Believing that Rudyard Kipling's poem *White Man's Burden* showed only one perspective of imperialism, in 1920, Morel wrote *Black Man's Burden* as a response to *White Man's Burden*.

1. Why did Edmund Morel suspect that Africans were being forced into slavery?

Read the excerpt of *Black Man's Burden* and respond to the questions.

1 It is [the Africans] who carry the "Black Man's Burden."
 2 [...] the white man has massacred the African in heaps.
 3 [...]

5 [...]he white man has carved broad and bloody avenues
 6 from one end of Africa to the other.[...] For three
 7 centuries the white man seized and enslaved millions of
 8 Africans and transported them, with every circumstance
 9 of ferocious cruelty, across the seas. Still the African
 10 survived and, in his land of exile, multiplied exceedingly.

12 [...]hat the Maxim [machine gun] and the rifle, the slave
 13 gang, labor in the bowels of the earth and the lash, have
 14 failed to do; what imported measles, smallpox and
 15 syphilis have failed to do; what even the oversea slave
 16 trade failed to do, the power of modern capitalistic
 17 exploitation, assisted by modern engines of destruction,
 18 may yet succeed in accomplishing.
 19

1. According to lines 1-3, who might Morel be responding to?

2. In lines 5-11 and 13-20, how does Morel describe the impact of imperialism on Africa?